

# California Postsecondary Education Commission

## Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program

### Project Description

Project Title	Access to the Core: Support for Secondary English Language Learners		
Grant Amount: \$1,010,800	Grant Period: November 1, 2005 – September 30, 2009		
Grade Level: 7-10	Subject Matter: English, Mathematics and English Language Development (ELD)		
Institute of Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/> University of California, San Diego (UCSD) <input type="checkbox"/> UCSD Extension, University of California Professional Development Institute		
Local Education Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Local District 6, Los Angeles Unified School District		
Additional Partners:	<input type="checkbox"/> Academic English/ESL Program, University of California, Irvine <input type="checkbox"/> School of Teacher Education, San Diego State University <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Mathematics and Statistics, San Diego State University		
Need for Project/ Population To Be Served:	<p>English learners in secondary classrooms throughout California have enormous challenges. They must simultaneously acquire proficiency in English and master complex content in the core academic subjects. In Los Angeles Unified School District, with over 20% of all English learners in the state, this need is particularly great. Partnering with LAUSD Local District 6—a high-need, mostly Latino district—UCPDI and district leadership will address the problems English learners have with accessing the academic language in core content classrooms through the development of a professional development program designed to close content knowledge gaps.</p>		
Project Goals:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Expand the current professional development partnership between UCPDI and LAUSD to include 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade language arts and mathematics teachers.</li> <li>2. Implement a standards-based instructional program to improve the achievement of 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade second language learners in language arts and mathematics.</li> <li>3. Build district and site-based capacity in the key content areas to support second language learners in grade-level content.</li> </ol>		
Summary of Activities:	<p>Utilizing current work in analysis of middle and high school language arts and mathematics standards, including instructional material analysis that aims to close textbook gaps in standards-based instruction, UCPDI will partner with LAUSD Local District 6 in developing a professional development curriculum focused on academic literacy for English learners in core content classrooms. Working with a literacy cadre (consisting of lead language arts, mathematics, and ELD teachers) at each school site, the partnership will develop intensive institutes and academic-year follow-ups designed to help teachers close instructional gaps in critical 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade language arts and pre-algebra and algebra standards. Research will be conducted at all Local District 6 middle schools and high schools, using Local District 5, with similar demographics and test scores, as a control group. Research will be conducted through student assessment, classroom videotaping and observation, and teacher interviews.</p>		
Outcomes Expected:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Recruitment of district leadership during the first year of program implementation.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Five days of intensive professional development for all Local District 6 eighth and ninth grade mathematics and language arts teachers in 2006-2007.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Three days of academic year support for all Local District 6 secondary mathematics and language arts teachers during the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Monthly cross content and content-specific school support meetings focused on English language development and core curriculum access for second language learners.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A web-based support tool will be available in 2007-2008 school year.</li> </ul>		
Teachers Served	300	Students Served	7800
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